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EXAMINER

ALI, MOHAMMAD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/668,973

Applicant(s)

YANO ET AL.

Examiner

Mohammad Ali

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9, 11-22 and 24-31 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9, 11-22 and 24-31 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

AT

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but before the filing of a Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or the commencement of a civil action. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/24/05 has been entered.
2. The application has been examined and claims 2-9, 11-22 and 24-31 are pending in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 2-9, 11-22 and 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robert J. Kamper ('kamper', hereinafter), US Patent 5,982,370 in view of Evans et al., ('Evans', hereinafter), US Patent 5,926,808.

With respect to claim 2,

Kamper discloses a method of managing information (see Abstract, lines 4-9), comprising:

- identifying a word of an image as a keyword (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper);
- determining a search result corresponding to the keyword (see col. 3, lines 35-43, Kamper);

- displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on a content (once the search term is marked "content" by the highlighting tool and the user releases the mouse button, a pop-up menu is optionally displayed to guide the user through subsequent navigation steps. FIG. 5c illustrates one possible form of this pop-up menu. A toolbar is used in place of the pop-up menu. The menu includes a number of options including: "search for the phrase," "search for all words," and search for "any of the selected terms." Preferably, one of the options is a "default." The pop-up menu is displayed after a predetermined time delay (e.g., 1-3 seconds). The pop-up menu

provides significant navigational assistance to inexperienced users, see col. 6, lines 50-65, Kamper) of the search result (col. 10, lines 26-37 and col. 7, lines 39-65);

displaying information corresponding to the search result (see col. 3, lines 42-43, Kamper); and

displaying additional information corresponding to a selection of a portion of the displayed information (see col. 3, lines 34-37).

Kamper does not explicitly indicate the claimed "keyword displayed image".

Evans discloses the claimed keyword displayed image (Hyperlinks operate on a page image shown to a database user. A phrase or text section on the page image will be highlighted. When a user selects this phrase clicking on the mouse, the user immediately shown the related text from another document, see col. 1, lines 39-43, Evans).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the data processing art, at the time of the present invention to have combined the teachings of the cited references because keyword displayed image of Evans's teachings would have allowed Kamper's system to select a phrase or text from the page image by clicking with a mouse will be able immediately shown related text from another document as suggested by Evans, see col. 1, lines 39-43). Keyword displayed image as taught by Evans improves to display portions of text from multiple documents over multiple databases related to a search query (see col. 2, lines 36-37 et seq, Evans).

As to claim 3,

Kamper teaches wherein the image is displayed on a display unit (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 4,

Kamper teaches wherein the information corresponding to the search result is displayed on a display unit (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 5,

Kamper teaches wherein the step of displaying additional information is performed without altering a file corresponding to the image (col. 10, lines 26-37 et seq).

As to claim 6,

Kamper teaches selecting, after the step of displaying information and before the step of displaying additional information, the portion of the displayed information (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 7,

Kamper teaches wherein the determining step comprises: determining the search result using a search engine accessible by a browser (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 8,

Kamper teaches wherein the step of identifying a word is performed using a pointing device (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 9,

Kamper teaches wherein the step of identifying a word is performed using a cursor position (col. 10, lines 3-4).

As to claim 11,

Kamper teaches wherein the identified word is a non-linked word (col. 10, lines 26-37).

As to claim 12,

Kamper teaches wherein, when a file is displayed on a display unit, a word from the file is identified as the keyword specified by a cursor on the display unit (col. 10, lines 3-4).

As to claim 13,

Kamper teaches displaying, on a display unit, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu comprising menu items for specifying search criteria for a search engine (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper); and

specifying the menu item by a cursor, wherein the keyword and the menu items specified are input into the search engine (col. 10, lines 3-4).

As to claim 14,

Kamper teaches wherein the menu is for specifying at least one search database (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

As to claim 15,

Kamper teaches displaying, on a display unit, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu for specifying output criteria of the search result (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

As to claim 16,

Kamper teaches wherein the menu is for specifying where to output the search result (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

With respect to claim 17,

Kamper discloses an information management device (see Abstract, lines 4-9), comprising:

a display unit configured to display an image (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper);

an identification unit configured to identify a word displayed in the image to be a keyword (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper); and

a search unit configured to input the keyword and to output a search result

corresponding to the keyword (see col. 3, lines 35-43, Kamper), wherein the display unit is configured to obtain the search result corresponding to the keyword from the search unit (see col. 3, lines 42-43, Kamper), to displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on a content (once the search term is marked "content" by the highlighting tool and the user releases the mouse button, a pop-up menu is optionally displayed to guide the user through subsequent navigation steps. FIG. 5c illustrates one possible form of this pop-up menu. A toolbar is used in place of the pop-up menu. The menu includes a number of options including: "search for the phrase," "search for all words," and search for "any of the selected terms." Preferably, one of the options is a "default." The pop-up menu is displayed after a predetermined time delay (e.g., 1-3 seconds). The pop-up menu provides significant navigational assistance to inexperienced users, see col. 6, lines 50-65, Kamper) of the search result (col. 10, lines 26-37 and col. 7, lines 39-65), to display information corresponding to the search result, and to display additional information corresponding to a selection of a portion of the displayed information (see col. 3, lines 34-37).

Kamper does not explicitly indicate the claimed "word displayed in an image".

Evans discloses the claimed word displayed in an image (Hyperlinks operate on a page image shown to a database user. A phrase or text section on the page image will be highlighted. When a user selects this phrase clicking on the mouse, the user immediately shown the related text from another document, see col. 1, lines 39-43, Evans).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the data processing art, at the time of the present invention to have combined the teachings of the cited references because word displayed in an image of Evans's teachings would have allowed Kamper's system to select a phrase or text from the page image by clicking with a mouse will be able immediately shown related text from another document as suggested by Evans, see col. 1, lines 39-43). Word displayed in an image as taught by Evans improves to display portions of text from multiple documents over multiple databases related to a search query (see col. 2, lines 36-37 et seq, Evans).

As to claim 18,

Kamper teaches a selection unit configured to receive an input from a user who selects a portion of the displayed information; and at least one database for storing therein at least one file (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

As to claim 19,

Kamper teaches wherein said search unit is a search engine accessible by a browser (see col. 3, lines 16-23 et seq, Kamper).

As to claim 20,

Kamper teaches wherein the identification unit is configured to identify the word using a pointing device (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 21,

Kamper teaches wherein the identification unit is configured to identify the word using a cursor position (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 22,

Kamper teaches wherein the display unit is configured to display additional information without altering a file corresponding to the image on the display unit (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 24,

Kamper teaches wherein the identification unit is configured to identify a non-linked word (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 25,

Kamper teaches when a file comprising a hypertext file or a non-hypertext file is displayed on the display unit, the identification unit is configured to identify a word from the file as the keyword specified by the cursor (col. 10, lines 3-4) on the display unit (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 26,

Kamper teaches a search criteria specification unit configured to display, on the display unit, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu for specifying search criteria for the search unit, the menu comprising menu items to be specified by a (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper); and

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a transfer unit configured to transfer the keyword and the menu items specified to the search unit (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 27,

Kamper teaches wherein the menu is for specifying at least one search database (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

As to claim 28,

Kamper teaches an output criteria specification unit configured to display, on the display unit, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu for specifying output criteria of the search result (see col. 3, lines 38-43, kamper).

As to claim 29,

Kamper teaches wherein the menu is for specifying where to output the result of the search (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper).

With respect to claim 30,

Kamper discloses an information management device (see Abstract, lines 4-9), comprising:

means for displaying an image (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper);

means for identifying a word displayed in the image to be a keyword (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper);

means for determining a search result corresponding to the keyword (see col. 3, lines 35-43, Kamper);

means for displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on a content (once the search term is marked "content" by the highlighting tool and the user

releases the mouse button, a pop-up menu is optionally displayed to guide the user through subsequent navigation steps. FIG. 5c illustrates one possible form of this pop-up menu. A toolbar is used in place of the pop-up menu. The menu includes a number of options including: "search for the phrase," "search for all words," and search for "any of the selected terms." Preferably, one of the options is a "default." The pop-up menu is displayed after a predetermined time delay (e.g., 1-3 seconds). The pop-up menu provides significant navigational assistance to inexperienced users, see col. 6, lines 50-65, Kamper) of the search result (col. 10, lines 26-37 and col. 7, lines 39-65);

means for displaying information corresponding to the search result (see col. 3, lines 42-43, Kamper); and

means for displaying additional information corresponding to a selection of a portion of the displayed information (see col. 3, lines 34-37).

Kamper does not explicitly indicate the claimed "word displayed in an image".

Evans discloses the claimed word displayed in an image (Hyperlinks operate on a page image shown to a database user. A phrase or text section on the page image will be highlighted. When a user selects this phrase clicking on the mouse, the user immediately shown the related text from another document, see col. 1, lines 39-43, Evans).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the data processing art, at the time of the present invention to have combined the teachings of the cited references because word displayed in an image of Evans's teachings would have allowed Kamper's system to select a phrase or text from the page image by clicking with a

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mouse will be able immediately shown related text from another document as suggested by Evans, see col. 1, lines 39-43). Word displayed in an image as taught by Evans improves to display portions of text from multiple documents over multiple databases related to a search query (see col. 2, lines 36-37 et seq, Evans).

With respect to claim 31,

Kamper discloses a computer program product storing program instructions for execution on a computer device, which when executed by the computer device, cause the computer device to perform (see Abstract, lines 4-9) the steps of:

identifying a word displayed in an image to be a keyword (see col. 3, lines 16-23, Kamper);

determining a search result corresponding to the keyword (see col. 3, lines 35-43, Kamper);

displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on a content (once the search term is marked "content" by the highlighting tool and the user releases the mouse button, a pop-up menu is optionally displayed to guide the user through subsequent navigation steps. FIG. 5c illustrates one possible form of this pop-up menu. A toolbar is used in place of the pop-up menu. The menu includes a number of options including: "search for the phrase," "search for all words," and search for "any of the selected terms." Preferably, one of the options is a "default." The pop-up menu is displayed after a predetermined time delay (e.g., 1-3 seconds). The pop-up menu provides significant navigational assistance to inexperienced users, see col. 6, lines 50-65, Kamper) of the search result (col. 10, lines 26-37 and col. 7, lines 39-65);

displaying information corresponding to the search result (see col. 3, lines 42-43, Kamper); and

displaying additional information corresponding to a selection of a portion of the displayed information (see col. 3, lines 34-37).

Kamper does not explicitly indicate the claimed "keyword displayed image".

Evans discloses the claimed keyword displayed image (Hyperlinks operate on a page image shown to a database user. A phrase or text section on the page image will be highlighted. When a user selects this phrase clicking on the mouse, the user immediately shown the related text from another document, see col. 1, lines 39-43, Evans).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the data processing art, at the time of the present invention to have combined the teachings of the cited references because keyword displayed image of Evans's teachings would have allowed Kamper's system to select a phrase or text from the page image by clicking with a mouse will be able immediately shown related text from another document as suggested by Evans, see col. 1, lines 39-43). Keyword displayed image as taught by Evans improves to display portions of text from multiple documents over multiple databases related to a search query (see col. 2, lines 36-37 et seq, Evans).

Remarks

5. US Patent 5,977,972 (Bates et al.) and US Patent 6,601,507 (Underwood et al.) also teaches Pop-up menu including other limitations.

6. Kamper and Evans teaches 'displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on the content of the search result' as, various pop-up menus are optionally displayed to the user during the search formulation and/or re-formulation to provide proactive assistance to the user. After the highlight tool has been activated a decision block and a test is made to determine whether the highlight tool has been placed over a selectable object (e.g., some text in the document being displayed). If the outcome "result" of the test is negative, the routine branches to optionally cause a pop-up "help" menu or screen to be displayed to guide the user to take some action. The menu includes such text as "please highlight text that you would like to search" or the like. If the outcome "result" of the test is positive, then the routine continues. The method then optionally display an additional "help" screen if needed (e.g., after a predetermined time delay). This screen say "you have placed the highlight tool; do you want to initiate a search" or the like. A test is made to determine whether an object (e.g., a search comprising a word or words) has been selected. If the outcome "result" of the test is negative, the routine cycles back as indicated. The outcome "result" of the test is positive, the routine continues to test whether the selection is complete. If not, the routine cycles back as indicated. The outcome of the test is positive, the routine continues (see col. 7, lines 39-65, Fig. 6, Kamper). Also, (once the search term is marked "content" by the highlighting tool and the user releases the mouse button, a pop-up menu is optionally displayed to guide the user through subsequent navigation steps. FIG. 5c illustrates one possible form of this pop-up menu. A toolbar is used in place of the pop-up menu. The menu includes a number of options including: "search

for the phrase," "search for all words," and search for "any of the selected terms."

Preferably, one of the options is a "default." The pop-up menu is displayed after a predetermined time delay (e.g., 1-3 seconds). The pop-up menu provides significant navigational assistance to inexperienced users, see col. 6, lines 50-65, Kamper)


Hence, Applicants' arguments do not distinguish over the claimed invention over the prior art of record.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-4105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 am-6:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Mohammad Ali
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2167

MA
September 24, 2005